

## Between the Bookends

By Cindy Stanley, Library Assistant  
Banks Public Library

Library representatives delivered an outstanding presentation November 13th to the Banks City Council, reviewing the library's history, funding and programs. Presenters were Banks Library Commission Chairperson Jacque Hermens, Library Administrator Denise Holmes, Library Commissioner Laurie Schlegel, and Ann Krutsinger, president of the Friends of the Banks Public Library. The Library's story is a fascinating one that is far too lengthy to cover here, however, one major point stands out. The steps that brought the library from humble beginnings in the WCCLS bookmobile to its current facility demonstrate enormous amounts of hard work and dedication by a relatively small, core group of people. Without them, we might not be here today. Special thanks go to Sheila Day - our unofficial historian - who spent hours working with Denise and Judy to create a photo history display that may be viewed at the library.

The library will host a free presentation by storyteller and singer Anne-Louse Sterry on Saturday, January 12th, from 1-2 p.m. This delightful performer entertained children during the summer reading program and we've invited her back for a program for both young and old. This presentation is sponsored by the Regional Arts and Culture Council, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Washington County Cooperative Library Services.

January 12th is also Recycling Saturday, sponsored by the Friends of the Banks Library. Bring all those holiday wrappings (and more) down to the Swatco Service Yard on Sellers Road just south of Hwy. 26, between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Recycle Saturday is held on the second Saturday of each month.

New books have been rolling in! More than 200 volumes of new juvenile and young adult non-fiction materials have been received during the past month and the library staff is working

like crazy to catalog these items and put them on the shelves. Our goal is to meet the academic needs of our youth, and eliminate the delay that occurs when resources must be brought in from other libraries.

For the big kids, we also have a variety of new books, including *The Best Loved Poems of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis*, *Smoke Jumper* by Nicolas Evans and *Black House* by Stephen King. Also available are several new books covering issues of terrorism, biological weapons, and the Taliban. Whether you want information, entertainment or comfort, the Banks Public Library can meet your needs.

This reader has enjoyed two new books recently that warrant mention. First is *Never Change* by Elizabeth Berg. This is a beautiful and touching story of a visiting nurse whose new charge just happens to be her high school heart-throb, who is dying of a brain tumor. Berg writes about levels of emotion that we seldom allow ourselves to feel, much less express out loud. The second book is *The Summer House* by Jude Deveraux. Since I was expecting a comfortable, light-hearted love story, I was pleasantly surprised by an exciting twist of fantasy in the form of time travel. What if we could go back, knowing what we know now, and alter our destiny?

As part of our program to meet the needs of our community, Preschool Story Time is held every Wednesday that school is in session, at 10:15 a.m. Library materials can also be reserved electronically by patrons with Internet access. Browse the library resources by going to [www.WILnet.wccls.lib.or.us](http://www.WILnet.wccls.lib.or.us)

**Banks Public Library:** 111 Market Street.  
**Hours:** Tues., Wed., Thurs., 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.;  
Fri. and Sat. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Preschool Story Time, Weds., 10:15 a.m.  
**Phone:** (503) 324-1382  
**Internet:** [www.WILnet.wccls.lib.or.us](http://www.WILnet.wccls.lib.or.us)

## Ike Says . . .

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consequences if this biologically unsupported cow harvest continues. There has also been a shift in hunter success to the first season, 2000 = 16-percent in the first season, versus 9-percent in the second season. It seemed to happen again this year, but we will have to wait for confirmation from the hunter survey results. In the past, hunter success rates have run just about even, with the exception of a few years with bad weather. This concern is running opposite of what conventional wisdom would have been, since the first season hunter numbers have been significantly cut, which should have meant that more bulls should have survived into the second season. The only plausible answer is that there were fewer bulls available to begin with. Only time will tell on this issue.

Please read the 2002 hunting and fishing regulations very, very carefully. This may save you some grief. While I noticed few changes for the coming year, please read them for yourself.

Upper Nehalem River users now have a new tool to measure water depth for fishing and boating. A new stream gauge has been installed downstream from the confluence with Clear Creek, next to Timber Road. The gauge data is also available on-line from either the USGS web page or my

favorite, <[www.americanwhite-water.org](http://www.americanwhite-water.org)>. The gauge is the one listed as being near Vernonia. Good boating levels appear to be 5-6.5 feet. This gauge will also provide data for making important water usage decisions in the future.

Now that water levels have dropped down to boatable levels in local streams, you can expect to see my friends and me in our kayaks. This year is shaping up to be a good one to boat Rock Creek and the upper Nehalem. Caution should be exercised until you ascertain the whereabouts of new strainers and log jams created by recent high winds and water. I have been told that there has been some landslide activity just south of Vernonia, causing a boating obstruction. It is still unclear if this hazard has cleared at this time. I will update river hazards as soon as I get some paddle time.

Speaking of paddle time, where does a bored kayaker who's not a hair boater go when the rivers are flooded? To Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation swim center on Walker road! For seven bucks, you and your boat can enjoy two hours of warm water in which to practice all your latest moves. I find it much more enjoyable to brush up on my roll wearing only swim trunks and spray skirt. Helpful tips can be picked up from other boaters or help given to beginners doing their first roll. I have come a long way on my roll since I started going to the pool. I now have a bomb proof roll off both sides and even did my first hand rolls (look Mom, no paddle). I even have a funky roll holding the very end of my paddle. I don't know when I would use it, but it sure does look weird.

Pool times are Sundays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Call 503-645-7454 to be sure the pool is not scheduled for another event. Also, clean your boat thoroughly before going to the pool. Leaving a mud slick behind is not tolerated.

Have a happy New Year!

## How New Year is said around the world . . .

*Chinese:* Chu Shen Tan

*Dutch:* Gullukig Niuw Jaar

*Finnish:* Onnellista Uutta Vuotta

*French:* Bonne Annee

*German:* Prosit Neujahr

*Polish:* Szczesliwego Nowego Roku

*Portuguese:* Feliz Ano Novo

*Russian:* S Novim Godom

*Irish (Gaelic):* Bliain nua fe mhaise dhuit

*Italian:* Buon Capodanno

## Letters to the Editor

### Does "KKK" have any other meaning?

To the Editor:

Being new to Vernonia has many benefits for me. Small town feeling, pretty parks and friendly people. But, I saw something here the other day that makes me question the validity of these benefits.

Please support the advertisers who make your free community newspaper possible. Without them, there could be no newspaper.

While taking a walk at the lake, I stopped to read the billboard. There is a chronological list of historical development that occurred here as Vernonia grew. Item 20 on this list was the shocker for me. It reads, "First KKK organized 1922".

Assuming "KKK" stands for the obvious and not the Kolumbia Kounty Kommission or something else, I wondered. Is this really necessary to be on a list for visitors and residents to read?

Granted, this is a historical fact, but is this an item worthy of being displayed as an accomplishment in this community?

Does the majority still favor the ideals of the KKK?

If this were true, then why not list the first lynching or some other crime against people?

In this day and age, are these the values we want to teach our children?

Vernonia, will you join with me to help correct this embarrassment and continue to have a positive environment in which to raise our children?

Thank you.

M. Silverman  
Vernonia

## POLICY ON LETTERS

The INDEPENDENT welcomes readers' letters and will publish as many as possible. All letters must be signed, including those sent by fax, and include a verifiable address and telephone number, which will not be printed except at the writer's request. Unsigned letters will not be published.

### Izaak Walton League

Nehalem Valley Chapter meetings are on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The public is welcome.

For meeting location, call (503) 429-7193.